



COLORADO SPRINGS,
COLORADO

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NOVEMBER 1994



Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc.
P. O. Box 16521
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80935

FIRST CLASS MAIL

1 Renew before 12/31/94
RON & LIZ DEUTSCH
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Ø BEAT



P.P.R.A.A. Officers and Directors

President--	Steve Westby	WB7VHR	1640 Keith Drive	\$0918	570-1070
Vice-President--	John Martin	NØURR	8233 Colony Circle	\$0919	531-4369
Secretary--	Luci Stansberry	NØOUD	2630 E. Uintah	\$0918	636-1290
Treasurer--	Ron Deutsch	NKØP	4305 Ridgeline Drive	\$0918	693-3352
Board Member--	Ora Marie Rose	NØQJX	5214 Colter Lane	\$0918	691-5756
Board Member--	Jeff Ryan	NØWPA	6721 Northface Lane	\$0919	698-4077
Board Member--	Harry Russell	NØSFP	529 E. Harmon	\$0918	Unlisted
Board Member--	Jill Kamienek	AAØTH	P.O. Box 5590, Woodland Pk	\$0866	887-5864
Board Member--	Warren Hickey	WØYNE	112895 Tia Lane	\$0908	406-0471
Past President--	Steve Westby	WB7VHR	1640 Keith Drive	\$0918	570-1070
Ø-Beat Editor--	Kathie Martin	NØYTQ	3148 Maverick Drive	\$0918	594-9339
Ø-Beat Editor--	Mike Martin	NØOCZ	3148 Maverick Drive	\$0918	594-9339

ZERO BEAT is published monthly in the interest of the members of the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc., PO Box 16521, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80905. For membership and subscription information see last page of this publication. The Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association meets monthly on the second Wednesday of each month at the Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 26, 6880 Palmer Park Blvd. at 7PM.

EDITORS: Kathie Martin, NØYTQ and Mike Martin, NØOCZ, 3148 Maverick Drive, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80918 (719)594-9339. Deadline for submission of articles or ads is the 20th of each month. Submissions may be sent to the Editor or to the club PO box. Permission to reprint articles is granted provided credit is given to both the author and this publication.

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Committee Chairpersons, etc.

Publicity	Al Craig	594-9288
Membership	Les Borst	634-3995
Education	Al Bailey	597-8514
VE Testing	Rick Brown	531-9423
Interference	Bill Petty	591-2118
RACES	Doug Moloney	Unlisted
ARES	Mike Stansberry	636-1290
Skywarn	Steve Westby	570-1070
Public Service	Mike Stansberry	636-1290
CCARC	Oak Stockton	570-7782
Club Trailer	Harry Russell	749-0244
Ø-Beat	Kathie Martin & Mike Martin	594-9339
Club Historian	Al Craig	594-9288
Falcon Wanderers	Bob Nyman	574-5161
Programs		
Swapfest	Harvey Hunter	597-8964

Reminder - November Meeting

The next meeting of the PPRAA will be held on Wednesday, November 9th at the Disabled American Veterans Hall located at 6880 Palmer Park Blvd. The meeting starts at 7:00 PM. Program will be on the "Cuba DXpedition" by Lauren Libby, KXØ4.

VE Testing

Rick Brown - KDØSU

VE Testing is sponsored by the PPRAA on the 2nd Saturday of February, April, June, August, October, and December. Testing takes place at 9:00 AM at:

Denver Technical College (DTC)
225 South Union
Colorado Springs

While we prefer pre registration, walk-ins are accepted on a space available basis. Anyone wishing to take an examination should bring the following items.

1. \$5.75 (preferably a check or money order made out to ARRL/VEC) for any exam other than element 1A or 2.
2. Picture identification.
3. A copy of your current amateur license as well as the signed original. A copy of any examination credit you have as well as the original. We keep the copies.
4. Pen, pencils, and a calculator if you need one.

To pre register, or if you have any questions, please call me at 531-9423. Please do not call DTC, they only provide us the rooms for testing and they do not have any information concerning the test session.

Test Results

Rick Brown KDØSU

The regularly scheduled Volunteer Examiner (VE) test session was held on October 8th with a great turnout. There were 29 people who took exams that day, with 21 people earning new licenses or upgrading. The results follow:

NOVICE

Michael Olson

TECHNICIAN

Leland Gordon
Daniel Braddock
Charles Layher
Scott Layher
Sean Mullally
Nicky Lampton
Eric Hesse
Jonathan Marsden
Michael Williams

TECHNICIAN PLUS

Ronald Reeves - KBØMMX
John Carroll
Curt Grosse - NØXXO

GENERAL

Alfred Sontag - KAØWIE
Jeffrey Headington - KBØMYC
Rick Jackson - KDØGQH

ADVANCED

Robert Harger - NØCMK
Robert Nyman - NØRNQ
Stephen Goodwin - KBØLUX

AMATEUR EXTRA

Doug Shock - KBØORR
Roger Christiansen - KBØNMG

We also held a test session on October 20th for the Novice/Tech class sponsored by the PPRAA. From that test session we had the following results:

NOVICE

Roger Spaulding

TECHNICIAN

Howard Phillips
Kathryn Bernstein

Three others from the class earned element credit for the Novice written portion of the exam and I am sure they will be upgrading at the end of the class.

Congratulations to all of the people listed above who have upgraded or earned new licenses. I hope we will soon have many more active hams in the PPRAA.

I would also like to thank all of the following VEs who helped out when I called.

WB7WHT - Rob
WB7VHR - Steve
WØMLW - Dennis
KBØKID - George
KG5N - Nick
WØRW - Paul
NKØP - Ron
NØTDS - Al
WDØGVH - Tom
K4YCD - Bill



Ø-Beat Traffic Net

Greetings,

Congratulations to all of the newly-elected PPRAA Officers and Board Members. We wish you success in your endeavors.

Franklin and I have been attempting to follow the campaigns for elections that many American human people will be having on November 8th. Are we ever confused? Actually all of us Mumlops are confused. Franklin and his colleagues at the College of Mumlopeties have been trying to make some sense out of the process. The problem is, they can't seem to make much sense out of what most human people are saying. For example what does "three strikes you're out" mean? What does "getting tough on crime" mean? What does "family values" mean? What does "healthcare reform" mean? Why do human people spend so much money to get elected and why do other human people give them that money? What do human people who spend money to try to get elected actually spend the money on? As you can see, we are very confused. And sometimes amused. But, we like human people very much and we wish you well in the elections.

Ta Ta

Prunella and Franklin



**PPRAA General Meeting
October 12, 1994**

Treasurers Report
Previous Balance 1980.15
Income 237.00
Expenses 277.97
New Balance 1939.18

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Al, NØCMW. The treasurers report was submitted and the minutes were approved as printed in Ø-Beat.

CCARC: Oak, KØROL announced our club will host the next CCARC in late March or early April. We will invite them to demonstrate their new spectrum analyzer.

Publicity: Al Craig expressed thanks to all who helped with the library event. It will be held on September 9th next year.

VE Testing: Our last exam session tested 29 examinees and there were lots of upgrades.

Interference: Chairman, Bill Petty, NØNJX announced the mysterious interference was coming from a paging tower, and when the operators were notified, it was promptly fixed.

Ø-Beat: Kathie expressed thanks for the articles. Keep looking, yours will likely be printed. KEEP ON SENDING ARTICLES.

RACES: HF Net will change times to 6:30 with daylight savings time.

ARES/Public Service: We will have a practice call up this weekend. Mike expressed thanks to all who've helped this past year.

Swapfest: Chairman, Harv announced our swapfest will be on May 20th at Liberty High School. The membership voted an expenditure up to \$1,300 for raffle prizes. The prizes are expected to be a dual band HT, an antenna analyzer, and a multimedia system for your computer.

A letter of resignation from the board by Steve Schaarschmidt, KØCI was read to the group. Steve will be unable to attend meetings due to a heavy work schedule.

Mike, KØTER's suggestion that we have separate categories for kits and "scratch" projects, and we have a time limit of one year for home brew night was voted on by the membership and approved.

Harry Russell, NØSFP announced the bearings are burning out of the club trailer and is in the process of replacing those.

AARL Bulletin #78, October 3, 1994. If you hold a Tech license issued before March 16, 1991 you are automatically a Tech Plus. In some instances the FCC has mistakenly not added the Tech Plus to licenses that were modified or renewed. If that has happened to you, write the FCC and include copies of both licenses. If you do not have copies, state so in your letter. Send this to FCC, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg PA 17325-7245.

Elections were held with the following results.

Steve Westby WB7VHR--President
John Martin NØURR--Vice President
Luci Stansberry NØOUS--Secretary

Ron Deutsch NKØP--Treasurer
Jeff Ryan NØWPA--Board
Harry Russell NØSFP--Board
Jill Kamienski AAØTH--Board
Warren Hickey WØYNE--Board
Submitted by Ken NØNKP Ex-Club Secretary

**PPRAA Board of Directors Meeting
October 17, 1994**

The meeting took place at Ora, NØQIX's house. Those present were Ron, NKØP, Harry, NØSFP, Mike, NØOCZ, Tom, NØNTX, Steve, WB7VHR, Warren, WØYNE, Jill, AAØTH, Kathie, NØYTQ, Luci, NØOD, Jeff, NØWPA and John, NØURR.

NØYTQ reported that October 21st is the deadline for articles for Zero Beat.

The Christmas party was discussed. NØURR will purchase door prizes. NØOD and WØYNE will discuss the food requirements and present a report at the November meeting. NØWPA will head up the entertainment. The 'Jeopardy' game will be played and we need judges for it.

The by-laws were discussed and each board member will review them and report at the next board meeting.

WB7VHR moved, with NØWPA second, that the club buy Amateur Radio videotapes and donate them to the Public Library.

NKØP will donate a half dozen novels from the ARRL to the Public Library.

NØSFP, NØWPA, and NØURR will be contacting our 'Elmers' for suggestions concerning how to operate our 'Elmer' program.
Submitted by Luci, NØOD, PPRAA Secretary



OM/YL LUNCH BUNCH

The Chowhounds enjoyed a most refreshing luncheon at the Country Harvest Buffet in September, with a goodly number of guests in attendance.

Our luncheon in November will be once again held at the Home Town Buffet in the Shops of the Bluffs on November 17, 1994 at 12:00 noon. Come join us as it is a marvelous opportunity to shoot the breeze while enjoying lunch.

73's
Rosie Calaway, WAØMNL

If you read last month's article you rushed right out and bought a TNC of your dreams. Right? You've also answered the question about what you want to do with packet. So this article will begin to explore what you can do by starting out with making a simple TNC to TNC connection and by getting you connected to a full-service packet BBS in your area.

The Local Connection. Call a friend that uses packet and have him meet you on a quiet frequency. You could start out on one of the busier packet frequencies but you'll be waiting a while as other packeters share the frequency.

Speaking of frequencies, the frequencies considered to be "packet" frequencies on two meters are 144.91, 144.93, 144.95, 144.97, 144.99, 145.01, 145.03, 145.05, 145.07 and 145.09. There are some other ones in use. The fact is that you can use packet on any two meter frequency that you can talk on. On these frequencies you'll find a lot of activity.

Okay. Now you're ready to connect to your friend's TNC. If you only set one parameter of your TNC, set the one that saves your callsign. This is the one that puts your callsign in each packet. The default callsign for most TNCs right out of the box is MYCALL. I stopped counting the number of times I've seen packets scroll up my screen addressed from some station with the callsign MYCALL. I've even seen a beacon or two from someone's personal packet mail box with something like:

MYCALL-1/R MYCALL-3/D MYCALL-5/N.

I won't say who's name was typed in along with it, but you know who you are. Let's get back to the connect sequence. With your friend waiting for you to connect, set your callsign by typing:

MYCALL <callsign> and press ENTER.

Naturally replace <callsign> with YOUR callsign. And assume you have to press the ENTER key always. Now you should be able to connect to your friend by typing:

CONNECT <friend's callsign> and press ENTER.

or just:

C <friend's callsign> and press ENTER.

You should see something like:

CONNECTED TO <friend's callsign>

appear across your screen. If all other parameters are set right, your TNC should switch to converse mode and now you can "talk" to each other via the keyboard.

[Briefly about the two modes of the TNC: command mode and converse mode. In command mode, anything you type is sent to the TNC. A valid set of characters is recognized as a command to the TNC and acted upon accordingly. If it's not a

valid command you'll get an error message. In converse mode, what you type at the keyboard is put into a data packet and transmitted out over the air for your friend and anyone else listening to copy.

And just a short note to say that if you think that just because your words are being transmitted as digital information instead of spoken words no one else can tap in to your conversation, think again. Anyone with a TNC can see what you type. There are a lot of non-hams with TNCs. So if you're leery about giving your phone number out over the air, be just as leery about typing it on packet.]

When you are done "talking", switch from converse mode to command mode and issue a disconnect command. Most TNCs let you switch to command mode by typing a CONTROL-C. Then type a D and hit ENTER. You should see something like:

DISCONNECTED

appear on your screen. And that's it. Not much to it. Of course I have assumed that all the default parameters on your TNC are set up so that it can be that simple. If there are some parameters not set right, you may have to experiment with some things. If you have a problem, give someone a call that is familiar with packet and, if possible, familiar with your brand of TNC.

The Full Service BBS

Connection. It's amazing how fast this space fills up. I'll say more about the full service BBSs next month. Meanwhile, don't just hold your breath and wait. Tune in to 145.01 or 145.03 or another frequency where you know the full service BBSs are. My apologies to other BBS operators, but I only have so much room. On 145.01 you can find WOLKD. On 145.03 you can find WORA and NOWPA. Tune to 145.03 and type:

C WORA and press ENTER.

If you're within range (WORA is in Yoder so aim your beams out east), you'll get a quick reply that you're connected. A prompt will appear and WORA will just sit there and wait for your command. So experiment. Type HELP or H or ?. See what works. Try to find out how to list all the commands so you can experiment even more. Do the same with WOLKD and NOWPA. You'll be surprised how easy it is. And don't worry about doing something wrong. The BBS will politely let you know if you've gone astray. You can't hurt anything - even if you disconnect.

Like I said, I cover these grand-daddy BBSs next time in more detail. Until then...

So much to say, so little space. Until next time ...SK

Rob Roller, WB7WHT, is the ARES District 14 Asst Emergency Coordinator for Packet Radio.



PPRAA

November 1994



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Introduction to Ham Radio East Library September 24, 1994

Our thanks to the Pikes Peak Library District for again hosting our annual public exhibit of amateur radio. We sure picked a great day for weather. In fact it was so good and the fall colors in the mountains were so appealing that I'm afraid it cut into our attendance. Nevertheless, we had quality people visit with us and it was all worth the effort. Our two operating stations (one SSB and the other CW) were very popular, as was net control for the March of Dimes Walkathon.

Our very special thanks to those independent organizations that joined us again this year. They were:

Edge of Space Sciences who came all the way from Denver with a very interesting and informative display describing their activities.

El Paso County Search and Rescue who brought out Com One and a number of their volunteers to tell the public about the valuable service they provide.

Pikes Peak Soaring Society again had the most eye catching exhibit with their sail planes. Every little kid, and a lot of older ones too, wanted one of them.

Thanks are due to Mike, KØTER and Jeff, NØWPA for arranging to have net control for the Walkathon at the library. And thanks to ARES and Skywarn, particularly Steve, WB7VHR for the great display he made. We certainly can't forget Ginger, NØUOD and Stephanie, KBØEZH for the fine job they did in looking after the Message Center as well as Laurie, KBØEXL for helping to get things set up and dismantled. Needless to say, Jake, NØCYR was there to help out when needed. You train them well, Jake.

Tom, NØNTX was there again to tell our visitors about ham radio via satellite—even with OSCAR far away from an operable position (third year in a row and next year may not be any better). To all those who loaned equipment for the CW and SSB stations as well as operators and those who explained things to the public, a big thanks. And we can't forget Harry, NØSFP and his hard working crew of antenna riggers without whom our stations wouldn't have gone any place. They even had to put up with an operating sprinkler system at 6:45 in the morning. Thanks Harry and company.

There were lots of others at the library in the morning to help out like the ladies who looked after the cookies and coffee—and the guys who

hung signs and moved tables and equipment. A big thanks to all. And we mustn't forget the young folks—Stephie Cox, KBØEZH, Emily, NØOPR and Megin Baxter, Chris Banks, NØQWU, and Robert Armstrong, NØWQN who was helping everywhere, particularly with the Tesla Coil (even with a broken wrist). Speaking of Tesla Coils, thanks again to Ron, NKØP for making available this great crowd stopper. Also thanks to Ken, NØNKP for his photographic work a few samples of which appear in this issue.

I'm afraid I have missed singling out many individuals for thanks. My apologies. There were just so many willing hands around that it was impossible to note them all. Finally my heartfelt thanks to the Steering Committee which made things so much easier. They were: Steve Schaarschmidt, KØCI who will be in charge of next year's program, Steve Westby, Russ and Rosie Calaway, John Kramer, Ron Deutsch, and last but certainly not least, Jeff Ryan.

A letter of thanks has been sent to the library and we have reserved Saturday, September 9th, 1995 for next year's show.

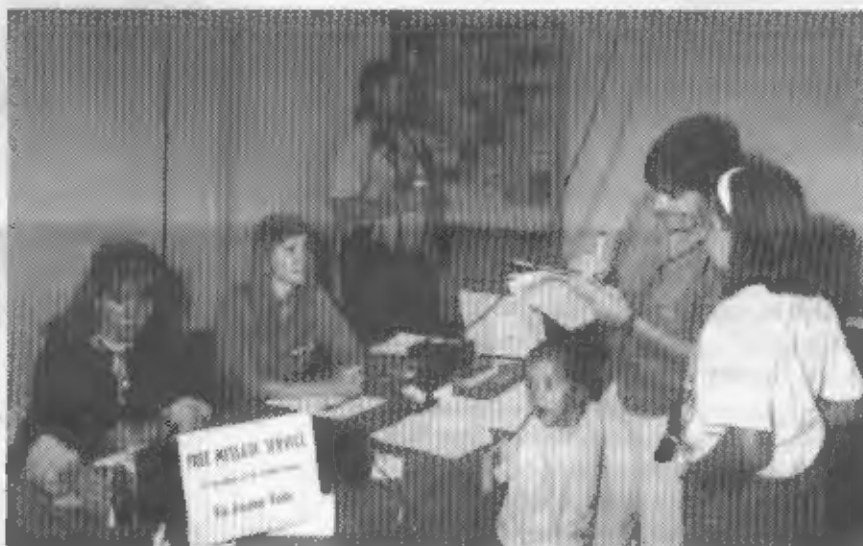
Submitted by: Al Craig, N2IWZ



**Young and old enjoy the
Pikes Peak Soaring Society exhibit**



George, KBØKID and a young visitor demonstrate the wonders of the Tesla Coil



Stephie, KBØEZH and Ginger, NØUOD at the Message Center



Harry, NØSFP and Sharon, NØOPS at Net Control for the March of Dimes Walkathon

LIBRARY SHOW

If you went to the East Library on Saturday, September the 24th, you would have seen more than the usual activity.

The PPRAA Club trailer was in the parking lot sporting a new coat of paint complete with the addition of logos. The "White Whale" as the com-van belonging to Search and Rescue is called, also was on display.

A small antenna farm was erected on the Library lawn.

As you entered the front door of the Library the Tesla Coil on display 'grabbed' your attention, and you were invited to hold a fluorescent tube near it to see the unique display from the top of the coil as the tube lit up.

People were invited down the hall to see a demo on Ham Radio. On entering that room QSL cards from all over the world, plus outer space were of interest to people.

On the PPRAA table sat "Hammie" along with literature and info on Ham Radio. In an adjoining room movies were shown pertaining to radio, where a cozy theater was set up.

People were encouraged to operate the radio controlled airplanes, which hung overhead, this excited especially the youngsters.

The HF and CW stations were busy, and the control operators along with other hams explained what was going on. The CW station had a computer screen to convert CW to print. They "worked" along with a lot of other stations.

In the center of the room was a US map with pins added as stations were contacted. The SSB station "worked" (among others) Germany, Denmark, Norway, 3 Finland, and 2 Sweden stations.

The Edge of Space exhibit proved to be a busy place, they were showing video of balloon flights and other things relating to flights.

El Paso Search and Rescue featured some of the equipment they use in a search and rescue. They also had leaflets, containing hazards, emergencies, travel and preparations tips that people could take with them.

The ARES and Skywarn table featured valuable info also, and they showed video of inclement weather, there too, hams were ready to answer any questions.

NCS, for the Walk American communications, which took place that day

conducted the NCS duties from a table in the room.

A table on satellite operations displayed that aspect of radio communications.

There were radios everywhere along with a huge analyzer.

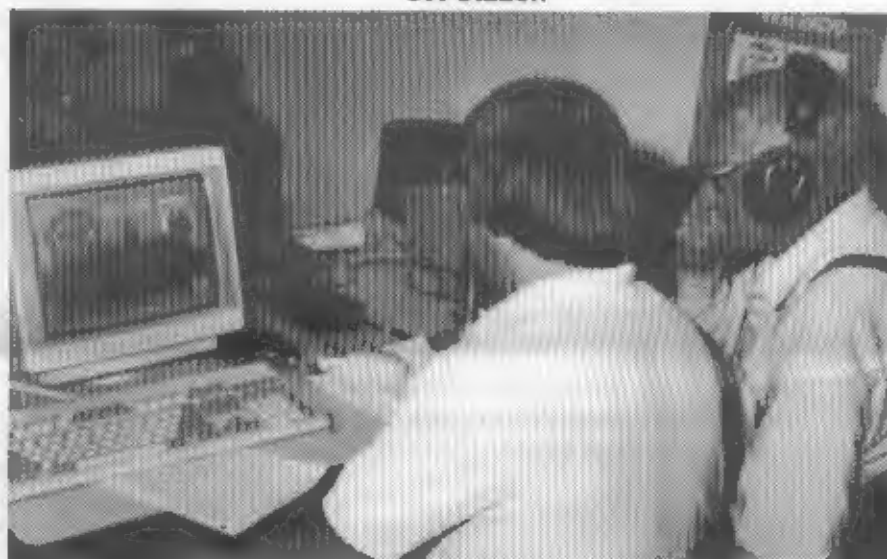
The sign "Send a Radiogram Free" on the traffic table made that a popular table, they handled over two dozen messages.

Last but not least—the refreshment table was a great place to visit, especially when dozens of donuts leftover from Walk America, and made on Pikes Peak were donated to us.

It took a lot of preplanning and hard work on the part of N2IWZ, AI, to host such an event as this. Credit, too, must be given to everyone who pitched in to help and make it a success and having such fun doing it.

Submitted by Rosie, WA0MNL

Harv, WA3EIB and Frank, NØIEM at the CW Station



Chris, NXØE and Jake, NØCYR chat with a visitor while Emily, NØOPR works the SSB Station

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Editor's Corner

First of all, we too would like to congratulate the new officers and board members of the PPRAA. We are also taking this opportunity to inform all members to **please read** the PPRAA By-Laws. A copy of the By-Laws is available on the Ham Radio Bulletin Board.

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